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REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 18-20, 22 and 23 are pending in the patent application. The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-11, 22, and 23 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Antonello; Claims 1, 22 and 23 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Hanley; and, Claims 18-20 under 35 USC as unpatentable over the teachings of Antonello in view of Chambers. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully assert that all of the pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art.

The Antonello patent discloses a system and method for transmitting metering pulses with rate information to a wireless public call office (PCO). A local exchange is wired to a wireless local loop which transmits wireless signals to subscribers' remote wireless devices, including PCOs and public pay phones. Each subscriber has a dedicated wireline at the local exchange (see: Col. 4, lines 5-6). The local exchange determines the rate (i.e., cost per unit time) for a call and sends it on the dedicated landline (Col. 4, lines 19-21) to the wireless local loop, which transmits it over the forward voice channel to the wireless device (see: Col. 4, lines 38-44). The local exchange will further provide

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rate and metering change information to the wireless local loop when the rates change.

Applicants respectfully assert that the Antonello patent provides no teachings regarding the claim features of means for associating a called telephone number with at least two wireless devices; means for alerting the at least two wireless devices associated with the called telephone number of a first incoming call; means for accepting one of said wireless devices as the answerer of said first incoming call to conduct the first incoming call with said wireless device; and means for transmitting a second incoming call, directed to the called telephone number, to one of the other wireless devices associated with that telephone number whilst the first call is in progress, which are expressly recited in all of the pending claims. The Antonello patent does not teach or suggest that multiple incoming calls to a subscriber number be directed to different wireless devices associated with that subscriber number. The Examiner has cited the teachings found at Col. 3, line 59- Col. 4, line 4 against the claimed associating a called number with at least two wireless devices. However, the cited Antonello passages do not teach or suggest such associating.

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Antonello does not provide means to associate a called number with more than one wireless device. Rather, Antonello has each subscriber number dedicated to a particular wireline and Antonello has the wireless local loop transmit radio signals which the subscribers use to determine if the signal information is for them (see: Col. 4, lines 1-2). The subscriber monitoring is the only "alerting" that Antonello provides for informing a subscriber of a call. The cited passages describe modulating a signal to provide the rate/metering information, but such is not the same as or suggestive of the claimed means for alerting at least two wireless devices associated with a single called telephone number of a first incoming call. Finally, Antonello provides no teaching or suggestion regarding means for accepting one wireless device as the answerer of a first incoming call to the subscriber number and means for transmitting a second incoming call to the same subscriber number to a different wireless device. Since Antonello has dedicated wirelines for each subscriber number, the claimed means is not even possible, let alone anticipated by Antonello. The passage which the Examiner cites against the claim language is found from Col. 5, line

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6-Col. 6, line 60. Applicants have reviewed the entire passage, which details the steps for Antonello to determine the pulse rate and to detect and signal changes in pulse rate. Applicants can find nothing in the cited passages, however, which teach or suggest the claim language reciting means for accepting a first device for a first incoming call and transmitting a second incoming call to another device. Antonello simply does not address the possibility of two calls to a single subscriber number. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that Antonello does not anticipate the invention as claimed.

Applicants remind the Examiner that, for a reference to anticipate another invention under 35 USC § 102(b), the reference must clearly teach each and every claimed feature of the anticipated invention. Since the Antonello patent clearly does not teach the network node device as now claimed, including means for associating a called telephone number with at least two wireless devices, means for alerting the at least two wireless devices associated with the called telephone number of a first incoming call, means for accepting one of said wireless devices as the answerer of said first incoming call to conduct the first incoming

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call with said wireless device, and means for transmitting a second incoming call, directed to the called telephone number, to one of the other wireless devices associated with that telephone number whilst the first call is in progress, it cannot be maintained that the Antonello patent anticipates each and every claim feature.

The Examiner has additionally rejected Claims 1, 22, and 23 as anticipated by the teachings of the Hanley patent. In so rejecting, the Examiner refers on page 4 to "Haynes". Applicants believe that the Examiner intended to refer to the Hanley patent and address the rejections under that assumption. The Hanley patent is directed to a system and method for providing wireless access to local exchange carriers. Effectively, Hanley addresses the issue of handling off calls among mobility nodes between base stations and wirelines at telephone switching offices. The Hanley patent does not teach or suggest the invention as claimed since, like Antonello, Hanley does not teach or suggest means for associating a called telephone number with at least two wireless devices; means for alerting the at least two wireless devices associated with the called telephone number of a first incoming call; means for

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accepting one of said wireless devices as the answerer of said first incoming call to conduct the first incoming call with said wireless device; or means for transmitting a second incoming call, directed to the called telephone number, to one of the other wireless devices associated with that telephone number whilst the first call is in progress. The cited Hanley passage at Col. 5, line 7-12 has been cited against the claimed means for associating. Applicants have reviewed the cited passage and find no discussion of more than one wireless device. Similarly, the passages cited against the claimed means for alerting do not describe or suggest the claim features. Rather, the cited passage from Col. 5, lines 25-35 detail a mobile device being connected as if it is connected along a wireline...with no alerting described. The cited passage from Col. 6, line 46 to line 60 describes detecting a signal for an outgoing call, but does not describe means for alerting at least two wireless devices associated with a single telephone number of a first incoming call. Finally, the passage cited from Col. 5, line 6 through Col. 6, line 60 makes no mention of a second call to the same single telephone number, let alone of means for accepting one wireless device as the answerer for a first

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call and means for transmitting a second incoming call to another wireless device associated with the same telephone number.

Again, Applicants respectfully assert that a reference cannot anticipate claim language if the reference does not teach each and every claim feature. Since the Hanley patent does not teach or suggest the claimed means for associating a called telephone number with at least two wireless devices, does not teach or suggest means for alerting the at least two wireless devices associated with the called telephone number of a first incoming call, does not teach or suggest means for accepting one of said wireless devices as the answerer of said first incoming call to conduct the first incoming call with said wireless device; and does not teach or suggest means for transmitting a second incoming call, directed to the called telephone number, to one of the other wireless devices associated with that telephone number whilst the first call is in progress, it cannot be maintained that Hanley anticipates the pending claims.

With respect to claims 18-20, Applicants refer to the arguments presented above with respect to the Antonello patent. Applicants further note that the Chambers patent

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does not provide those teachings which are missing from the Antonello patent. The Chambers patent discloses a system for connecting telecommunications lines to telephones, handsets, computers and other end user interfaces or consumer electronics devices in a residence or business. Chambers does not, however, teach or suggest the invention as set forth in Claim 1, and in Claims 18-20 which depend directly therefrom. The Chambers patent does not provide a network node device comprising one or more connections to one or more telephone wirelines for receiving incoming calls each specifying a telephone number; one or more wireless signal generators supporting one or more direct wireless connections to one or more wireless devices; one or more controllable interconnections between the telephone wirelines and the wireless signal generators; means for associating a called telephone number with at least two wireless devices; means for alerting the at least two wireless devices associated with the called telephone number of a first incoming call; means for accepting one of said wireless devices as the answerer of said first incoming call to conduct the first incoming call with said wireless device; and means for transmitting a second incoming call,

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directed to the called telephone number, to one of the other wireless devices associated with that telephone number whilst the first call is in progress, as is now recited in Claim 1, and in Claims 18-20 which include all of the limitations of Claim 1. While the Chambers patent may provide power supply teachings, that alone is not sufficient to obviate the claims which include all of the limitations of Claim 1.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments, withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,  
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